

JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING  
BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 19 OCTOBER 1993

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1044-1-01 (ACCNO 0092)                      Status: (Z) DEAD BODY NOT RECOVERED  
Name: GEORGE, JAMES EDWARD JR                      Date Status assigned: 1 May 1973

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	\$
Service	ARMY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	# #
Grade	E4	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN		Eyes	BROWN	Weapon	#
Serial No	DATA	Height	70 in / 1.78 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	19 Jul 1947	Weight	131 lb / 59.3 kg	Duty pos	PASSENGER
Home State	TEXAS	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	\$

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)                      LAST KNOWN LOCATION (1)

Site Type:	CRASH SITE	
UTM:	48QYD471521	48QYD390382
Lat/Long:	164425N / 1071905E	163655N / 1071426E
Country:	SOUTH VIETNAM	
Military Region:	1	
Mission Province:	QUANG TRI	
(formerly):		
Mission District:	TRIEU HAI	
Mission Date:	9 Feb 1968	
Mission Category:	3	
Local Analysis:	None.	Unknown location.

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Folders Passed: Jul 93, Aug 87  
Investigations: Aug 93  
Surveys: Aug 93  
Vessey Case: NO  
Case type: DISCREPANCY

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type:	UH1D	Serial:	13894
Crash Type:	Enemy action	Engine Type:	T53
Call Sign:	QUINCY 894	1 Serial:	#
Year:	64	2 Serial:	\$

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

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===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1044-2-02 (ACCNO 0160)                      Status: (T) RELEASED  
Name: LENKER, MICHAEL ROBERT                      Date Status assigned: 16 Mar 1973

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	\$
Service	ARMY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	# #
Grade	E4	Hair	BLACK	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN		Eyes	BROWN	Weapon	#
Serial No	DATA	Height	67 in / 1.70 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	12 Apr 1947	Weight	140 lb / 63.4 kg	Duty pos	GUNNER
Home State	ILLINOIS	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	QUANG NAM PRO

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0)                      LAST KNOWN LOCATION (2)

Site Type:	CRASH SITE	
UTM:	48QYD471521	48QYD481521
Lat/Long:	164425N / 1071905E	164424N / 1071939E
Country:	SOUTH VIETNAM	
Military Region:	1	
Mission Province:	QUANG TRI	
(formerly):		QUANG NAM
Mission District:	TRIEU HAI	
Mission Date:	9 Feb 1968	
Mission Category:	3	\$
Local Analysis:	None.	

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Investigations: Aug 93  
Surveys: Aug 93  
Vessey Case: NO

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type:	UH1D	Serial:	13894
Crash Type:	Enemy action	Engine Type:	T53
Call Sign:	QUINCY 894	1 Serial:	#
Year:	64	2 Serial:	\$

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===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1044-2-03 (ACCNO 0381) Status: (T) RELEASED  
Name: ZIEGLER, ROY ESPER 'DICK' II Date Status assigned: 5 Mar 1973

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	\$
Service	ARMY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	# #
Grade	W1	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN	DATA	Eyes		Weapon	#
Serial No		Height	71 in / 1.80 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	1 Sep 1941	Weight	150 lb / 68.0 kg	Duty pos	PILOT
Home State	ILLINOIS	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	QUANG NAM PRO

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0) LAST KNOWN LOCATION (2)

Site Type:	CRASH SITE	48QYD481521
UTM:	48QYD471521	164424N / 1071939E
Lat/Long:	164425N / 1071905E	
Country:	SOUTH VIETNAM	
Military Region:	1	
Mission Province:	QUANG TRI	QUANG NAM
(formerly):		
Mission District:	TRIEU HAI	
Mission Date:	9 Feb 1968	
Mission Category:	3	\$
Local Analysis:	None.	

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Investigations: Aug 93  
Surveys: Aug 93  
Vessey Case: NO

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type:	UH1D	Serial:	13894
Crash Type:	Enemy action	Engine Type:	T53
Call Sign:	QUINCY 894	1 Serial:	#
Year:	64	2 Serial:	\$

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===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1044-2-04 (ACCNO 0038) Status: (T) RELEASED  
Name: CHENOWETH, ROBERT PRESTON Date Status assigned: 16 Mar 1973

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	\$
Service	ARMY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	# #
Grade	E4	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	#
SSAN	DATA	Eyes	BROWN	Weapon	#
Serial No		Height	70 in / 1.78 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	1 Dec 1947	Weight	145 lb / 65.7 kg	Duty pos	CREWMAN
Home State	OREGON	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	HANOI PW DETE

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0) LAST KNOWN LOCATION (2)

Site Type:	CRASH SITE	48QYD481521
UTM:	48QYD471521	164424N / 1071939E
Lat/Long:	164425N / 1071905E	
Country:	SOUTH VIETNAM	
Military Region:	1	
Mission Province:	QUANG TRI	QUANG NAM
(formerly):		
Mission District:	TRIEU HAI	
Mission Date:	9 Feb 1968	
Mission Category:	3	\$
Local Analysis:	None.	

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Investigations: Aug 93  
Surveys: Aug 93  
Vessey Case: NO

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type:	UH1D	Serial:	13894
Crash Type:	Enemy action	Engine Type:	T53
Call Sign:	QUINCY 894	1 Serial:	#
Year:	64	2 Serial:	\$

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

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===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1044-2-05 (ACCNO 0250) Status: (T) RELEASED  
Name: ROSE, JOSEPH III Date Status assigned: 5 Mar 1973

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	\$
Service	ARMY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	# #
Grade	W1	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN		Eyes	BROWN	Weapon	#
Serial No	DATA	Height	70 in / 1.78 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	24 Aug 1946	Weight	170 lb / 77.0 kg	Duty pos	PILOT
Home State	WEST VIRGINIA	Religion	CATHOLIC	PW Camp	QUANG NAM PRO

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0) LAST KNOWN LOCATION (2)

Site Type:	CRASH SITE	
UTM:	48QYD471521	48QYD481521
Lat/Long:	164425N / 1071905E	164424N / 1071939E
Country:	SOUTH VIETNAM	
Military Region:	1	
Mission Province:	QUANG TRI	
(formerly):		QUANG NAM
Mission District:	TRIEU HAI	
Mission Date:	9 Feb 1968	
Mission Category:	3	\$
Local Analysis:	None.	

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Investigations: Aug 93  
Surveys: Aug 93  
Vessey Case: NO

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type:	UH1D	Serial:	13894
Crash Type:	Enemy action	Engine Type:	T53
Call Sign:	QUINCY 894	1 Serial:	#
Year:	64	2 Serial:	\$

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

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BIOGRAPHIC/SITE REPORT AS OF 19 OCTOBER 1993

===== BIOGRAPHIC INFORMATION =====

REFNO: 1044-2-06 (ACCNO 0233) Status: (T) RELEASED  
Name: PURCELL, BENJAMIN HARRISON Date Status assigned: 27 Mar 1973

Nationality	AMERICAN	Race	CAUCASIAN	Blood Chit	\$
Service	ARMY	Sex	MALE	Blood type	# #
Grade	06	Hair	BROWN	Complexion	FAIR
SSAN		Eyes	BLUE	Weapon	#
Serial No	DATA	Height	69 in / 1.75 mtrs	Weapon No	#
Birth date	14 Feb 1928	Weight	168 lb / 76.1 kg	Duty pos	PASSENGER
Home State	GEORGIA	Religion	PROTESTANT	PW Camp	DANANG QUANG

===== SITE INFORMATION =====

INCIDENT LOCATION (0) LAST KNOWN LOCATION (2)

Site Type:	CRASH SITE	
UTM:	48QYD471521	48QYD481521
Lat/Long:	164425N / 1071905E	164424N / 1071939E
Country:	SOUTH VIETNAM	
Military Region:	1	
Mission Province:	QUANG TRI	
(formerly):		QUANG NAM
Mission District:	TRIEU HAI	
Mission Date:	9 Feb 1968	
Mission Category:	3	\$
Local Analysis:	None.	

===== JTF-FA ACTIVITY SUMMARY =====

Investigations: Aug 93  
Surveys: Aug 93  
Vessey Case: NO

===== VEHICLE DATA =====

Vehicle Type:	UH1D	Serial:	13894
Crash Type:	Enemy action	Engine Type:	T53
Call Sign:	QUINCY 894	1 Serial:	#
Year:	64	2 Serial:	\$

===== SPECIAL CHARACTER KEY =====

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CASE: 1044

=== CIRCUMSTANCES OF LOSS ===

1 December 1975

ON 8 FEBRUARY 1968 SP4 JAMES E. GEORGE JR., AND LTC BENJAMIN H. PURCELL, PASSENGERS, WO ROY E. ZIEGLER, AIRCRAFT COMMANDER, WO JOSEPH ROSE, III, PILOT, SP5 MICHAEL R. LENKER, GUNNER AND SP4 ROBERT R. CHENOWETH, CREWCHIEF, WERE ABOARD A UH1D HELICOPTER, (#64-13894), ENROUTE TO DA NANG, SOUTH VIETNAM ON A COMBAT SUPPORT MISSION. WHILE ENROUTE, THE HELICOPTER WAS HIT BY ENEMY GROUND FIRE, THE AIRCRAFT CAUGHT FIRE, BURNED AND CRASHED IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES (GC) YD 471 521.

ALL ONBOARD SURVIVED THE CRASH, BUT SP4 GEORGE WAS BADLY BURNED ON THE FACE, HEAD AND LOWER ARMS, AND WO ZIEGLER WAS WOUNDED IN THE LOWER LEFT LEG. THE GROUP MOVED TO A SHELL CRATER IN AN ATTEMPT TO GAIN COVER FROM THE PURSUING ENEMY. SP4 GEORGE AND WO ZIEGLER SLIPPED OUT OF THE CRATER IN AN ATTEMPT TO EVADE. SHORTLY THEREAFTER LTC PURCELL, SP5 LENKER, WO ROSE AND SP4 CHENOWETH WERE CAPTURED. ABOUT 15 MINUTES LATER SP4 GEORGE WAS CAPTURED AND JOINED THE GROUP. THE GROUP WAS MOVED TO A NEARBY VILLAGE FOR THE NIGHT.

THE NEXT MORNING THE GROUP DEPARTED THE VILLAGE ON FOOT. AFTER A SHORT MARCH LTC PURCELL HEARD SP4 GEORGE SAYING HE COULD NOT SEE, AS HIS EYES WERE SWOLLEN SHUT. SHORTLY AFTER, LTC PURCELL HEARD A SHOT WHICH HE BELIEVES KILLED SP4 GEORGE; IN THE VICINITY OF (GC) YD 390 382. SP4 GEORGE WAS NEVER SEEN NOR HEARD FROM AGAIN BY ANY MEMBER OF THE GROUP. WO ZIEGLER LATER WAS CAPTURED AND JOINED THE REMAINING GROUP ON 26 FEBRUARY 1968. LTC PURCELL FOUND SP4 GEORGE'S IDENTIFICATION TAGS WITH HIS OWN AT ONE OF THE VC CAMPS IN THE UPPER A SHAU VALLEY. (REF 1 & 3)

ON 30 MARCH 1973 A RELEASE REPORTED DURING HIS DEBRIEF THAT SP4 GEORGE COULD NOT KEEP UP DURING THE MARCH THE FOLLOWING MORNING AFTER THIER CAPTURE AND WAS PULLED FROM THE GROUP. LATER A SHOT WAS HEARD IN THE DIRECTION WHERE SP4 GEORGE WAS DETAINED. HE BELIEVED THAT SP4 GEORGE WAS KILLED BY THE GAURDS. (SP4 GEORGE WAS IDENTIFIED AS BEING A POW BY U.S. RELEASEES SP4 CHENOWETH, WO ZIEGLER, AND WO ROSE; ALL INDICATED THAT HE HAD DIED IN CAPTIVITY.) (REF 2)

DURING THE EXISTANCE OF JCRC, THE HOSTILE THREAT IN THE AREA PRECLUDED ANY VISITS TO OR GROUND INSPECTIONS OF THE SITE INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. THIS INDIVIDUALS NAME AND IDENTIFYING DATA WERE TURNED OVER TO THE FOUR-PARTY JOINT MILITARY TEAM WITH A REQUEST FOR ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE. NO RESPONSE WAS FORTHCOMING. SP4 GEORGE IS CURRENTLY CARRIED IN THE STATUS OF DEAD, BODY NOT RECOVERED. LTC PURCELL, SP4 CHENOWETH, WO ROSE, AND SP5 LENKER WERE RELEASED TO U.S. MILITARY CONTROL.

CASE: 1044

=== REFERENCES ===

1 December 1975

REFERENCES: <1> RPT, HQ USARV, W/ENCLOSURES, 15 MAY 68. <2> RPT, 115TH MI GP, DEBRIEF OF SSG MICHAELR. LENKER, 30 MARCH 1973. <3> RPT, 109TH MI GP DEBRIEF OF COL BENJAMIN H. PURCELL, 22 MAY 73. <4> 240457Z SEP 93 CJTFFA DET ONE BANGKOK TH.

=== NEGOTIATION ACTIONS ===

4 December 1987

A CASE NARRATIVE PERTAINING TO JAMES E. GEORGE, JR. WAS PASSED BY JCRC ON 4 AUG 87 TO THE SRV EMBASSY IN BANGKOK PURSUANT TO AGREEMENTS REACHED BETWEEN GENERAL VESSEY AND SRV FOREIGN MINISTER NGUYEN CO THACH.

20 August 1993

CASE NARRATIVE WAS PASSED TO REPRESENTATIVES OF THE VIETNAMESE GOVERNMENT DURING THE 28 JUL 1993 POW/MIA TECHNICAL MEETING IN HANOI.

=== ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS ===

1 December 1975

ASSOCIATED INDIVIDUALS: JAMES E. GEORGE, JR. 1044-1-01, MICHAEL R. LENKER 1044-2-02, ROY E. ZEIGLER 1044-2-03, ROBERT P. CHENWORTH 1044-2-04, JOSEPH ROSE, III, 1044-2-05, AND BENJAMIN H. PURCELL 1044-2-06.

=== MAJOR COORDINATE CHANGE ===

14 December 1975

INCIDENT LOCATION CHANGED FROM YD390383 TO YD471521 BASED ON BOARD REPORT, DA NANG SUB AREA CMD, 28 APR 68 AND SECONDARY SITE OF YD 390382 ENTERED BASED ON MSG, USAINTC OIC LETTERMAN GEN HOSP, 210310Z MAR 73.

=== JOINT INVESTIGATION, SURVEY OR EXCAVATION ===

6 October 1993

ON 31 AUG AND 6 SEP 93, IE2 INVESTIGATED CASE 1044 IN HAI QUI VILLAGE, HAI LONG DISTRICT, QUANG TRI PROVINCE. IE2 INTERVIEWED FOUR INDIVIDUALS, TWO OF WHOM STATED THEY SAW FIVE AMERICANS CAPTURED, BUT THE CAPTIVES WERE LATER LED OUT OF THE VILLAGE. THEY HAD NO KNOWLEDGE OF THE DISPOSITION OF THE CAPTIVES. THE THIRD WITNESS COULD ONLY PROVIDE HEARSAY INFORMATION

CASE: 1044

ABOUT THE INCIDENT. THE FOURTH WITNESS COULD NOT PROVIDE THE TEAM WITH ANY RELEVANT INFORMATION. IE2 CONDUCTED TWO SITE SURVEYS, ONE OF THE LAST KNOWN LOCATION AND ONE OF THE ALLEGED SHOOTING INCIDENT REPORTED BY ONE OF THE REPATRIATED INDIVIDUALS INVOLVED IN THIS CASE. ALL SURVEYS MET WITH NEGATIVE RESULTS. WHILE CONDUCTING THE SITE SURVEYS, IE2 CANVASSED THE LOCAL VILLAGES FOR POTENTIAL WITNESSES BUT NO INFORMATION COULD BE OBTAINED REGARDING THE DISPOSITION OF THE CAPTIVES. NO MATERIAL EVIDENCE, BURIAL SITES OR REMAINS WERE LOCATED. (REF 4)



JOINT TASK FORCE - FULL ACCOUNTING  
CAMP H. M. SMITH, HAWAII 96861-5025

CASE 1044-0-01

NARRATIVE

ON 8 FEBRUARY 1968, SPECIALIST FOUR JAMES E. GEORGE, JUNIOR, LIEUTENANT COLONEL BENJAMIN H. PURCELL, WARRANT OFFICER ONE ROY E. ZIEGLER, WARRANT OFFICER ONE JOSEPH ROSE III, SPECIALIST FIVE MICHAEL R. LENKER AND SPECIALIST FOUR ROBERT R. CHENOWETH WERE ABOARD A UH-1D HELICOPTER (SERIAL NUMBER 64-13894) WHICH CRASHED IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES YD471521, APPROXIMATELY 13 KILOMETERS EAST OF QUANG TRI, QUANG TRI PROVINCE. THE CREW SURVIVED THE CRASH AND WERE CAPTURED. ALL THE CREW MEMBERS EXCEPT SPECIALIST GEORGE WERE RELEASED IN FEBRUARY 1973. THEY REPORTED THAT SPECIALIST GEORGE HAD BEEN BADLY BURNED

DATA . THE DAY AFTER THEIR CAPTURE, AS THEY WERE MARCHED AWAY FROM THE CRASH SITE, SPECIALIST GEORGE'S

DATA AND HE LAGGED BEHIND THE COLUMN OF THE OTHER PRISONERS. ONE OF THE GUARDS DEPARTED THE COLUMN AND SHORTLY THEREAFTER A PISTOL SHOT WAS HEARD. SPECIALIST GEORGE WAS NEVER SEEN AGAIN. COLONEL PURCELL REPORTED THEY WERE IN THE VICINITY OF GRID COORDINATES YD390382 WHEN THIS INCIDENT OCCURRED. HE LATER FOUND HIS AND SPECIALIST GEORGE'S IDENTIFICATION TAGS IN A GARBAGE HEAP AT A VIETNAMESE COMMUNIST PRISON CAMP IN THE UPPER A SHAU VALLEY.

Passed to officials of the  
Vietnamese government during a  
28 Jul 93 technical meeting 198